

5.7 Export to the U.S. – Cervids

Health Certification

1. The export certificate *HA 1891 Export of Farmed Elk and Deer to the United States* must be used.
2. All cervids described on the health certificate must have been captive farmed. Continuous records of animal identification and herds of residence for the animals being exported, from the time of birth until export, must have been verified. **Animals born in the wild are ineligible** for entry to the U.S. under this protocol.
3. Chronic wasting disease (CWD) must never have been diagnosed in the herd of origin.
4. The herd of origin must be a herd of negative status for tuberculosis and brucellosis according to the provisions of the CFIA captive ungulate program, and there must have been no direct or indirect contact between the herd of origin and any known source infected with tuberculosis (*Mycobacterium bovis*) or brucellosis (*Brucella abortus*).
5. The herd of origin must be located not less than 40 kilometres from any known wild population infected with *M. bovis*, *B. abortus*, or the CWD agent.
6. The herd of origin must not contain animals from any herd where tuberculosis or brucellosis has ever been diagnosed.
7. Neither tuberculosis nor brucellosis has been diagnosed on the premises of origin during the five years preceding the start of testing for export.
8. On the premises of origin, there must not be any *M. bovis* or *B. abortus*-susceptible ruminants that have not attained the status of a herd officially recognized as being free from tuberculosis and brucellosis or a herd of negative status for tuberculosis and brucellosis under the Canadian Animal Health Program for Farmed Cervids.
9. Animals for export must not be the direct offspring of any animals that have been diagnosed with CWD nor can they have resided at any time in a herd in which the disease has been diagnosed.

10. If less than one year of age, animals for export must be natural additions to the herd of origin.
11. Animals intended for export must have been included in a herd recertification test (herd of negative status), except when the animals were natural additions to the herd after the recertification test, or if the animals originated from other herds of negative status for tuberculosis and brucellosis or from U.S. Accredited Free herds.
12. During the 60 days before export to the U.S., the cervids for export and the herd of origin must have remained free from symptoms of infectious or contagious disease and, as far as it can be determined, have not been exposed to any such disease.
13. Canada must be free from foot-and-mouth disease, rinderpest, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, and surra.

Certification Procedure

14. Tuberculosis: Within the 60 days before export, each cervid must be tested with negative results for bovine tuberculosis using the Canadian Mid-Cervical Test (MCT). Any cervid classified as a responder to the MCT is ineligible for entry to the U.S. However, if the status of all responders can be established by comparative testing or by post-mortem examination and tissue culture, negative contact animals may be considered for entry.
15. Brucellosis: Within the 30 days before export, cervids must test negative to a buffered plate agglutination test (BPAT) for *B. abortus*. Any animal that tests positive is ineligible for entry to the U.S. The animal must be removed from the group and test negative to a complement fixation test at a dilution of 1:5 in order for the test-negative contact animals to be considered for entry to the U.S.
16. Cervids under six (6) months of age at the time of export, when travelling at the side of their dam, are exempt from the test requirements.

How to Complete the Canadian Health Certificate (HA 1891)

17. The accredited veterinarian must use the most recent version of the HA 1891 export certificate.

18. All the cervids must be identified with an official unique individual (HofA or ATQ) ear tag, or tattoo and must also have a large readable bangle ear tag that allows the bangle numbers to be checked without offloading the animals during inspection. The bangle tag numbers and corresponding official tag or tattoo numbers must be recorded on the official health certificate.
19. The completed and signed health certificate will be submitted to a CFIA veterinary inspector to review and, if all requirements are met, endorse. Any incomplete export certificates will be returned to the accredited veterinarian for completion. A fee is charged for CFIA endorsement. Endorsed certificates are returned to the accredited veterinarian. **The health certificate is valid for 30 days from the date of examination.**
20. The original and two copies of the official Canadian health certificate must be issued for each vehicle in a shipment.

Inspections at U.S. Ports of Entry

21. The animals must be presented by appointment at the U.S. port of entry. The port veterinarian will conduct a visual health examination of the cervids and verify individual identification and the information on the official health certificate.
22. Refer to [5.1 Export to the U.S. - General](#) for the list of land ports of entry designated as having the necessary inspection facilities for the entry of animals from Canada. Although the list was provided by the USDA, it is the exporters' responsibility to present their animals to a U.S. port of entry that has the facilities required for the unloading and inspection of such animals.

Export of Cervids for Immediate Slaughter

23. Captive cervidae may be exported for immediate slaughter at USDA approved slaughter establishments without a health certificate. The USDA publishes a [list of approved plants](#) on its Web site.

References

A copy of export health certificates [HA 1891](#) can be found on the CFIA Web site.